

Routing for Controlled Correspondence AX

Control # 9806218
Date Received 8/18/98
Due Date 8/20/98

PLEASE HAND-CARRY

	Initials	Date
1. H-1-S Office Manager (Control) <i>He</i>	<i>HC</i>	<i>8/18</i>
<i>J. Kemmerer</i> 2. Branch Office Manager (Control)		
3. Branch Chief (Assign: Section)		
4. Section Chief (Assign: Staff)		
5. ORC (Concur: Yes/No)		
6. Branch Chief (Signature)		
7. Branch Office Manager (Decontrol)		
8. Acting Director, Superfund Program (Signature)		
9. H-1-S Office Manager (Decontrol)		
10. Regional Administrator's Office (Mail-out)		



**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
CONTROL SLIP**

water

CONTROL NO: AX-9806218

DUE DATE:
ORIG. DUE DATE: 08/20/98

STATUS: PENDING

CORRES. DATE: 07/27/98
RECEIVED DATE: 08/04/98
ASSIGNED DATE: 08/06/98
CLOSED DATE:

FROM: PALACIO FRANCIS, GARCIA YVONNE, MONTES ABEL, FALLON ROBERT, ALDERETE JOE

ORG: LA PUENTE VALLEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

SALUTATION: DEAR MR. PALACIO

CONSTITUENT:

TO: ADMINISTRATOR
TO ORG: EPA

SUBJECT: REQ- FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO THOSE AFFECTED BY WATER CONTAMINATION IN DRINKING WATER WELLS

ASSIGNED: REGION 09
COMMENTS:

SIGNATURE: REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

INSTs: PREPARE REPLY FOR THE REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR'S SIGNATURE.
SEND COPY OF REPLY TO OEX.

ADDTN'L INST:

CC's: ADMINISTRATOR
DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR
OCIR-MYRTLE LASHLEY
OFFICE OF REGIONAL OPERATIONS
WATER

IMS: MARY STODDARD-BOYD
IMT: EARLINE MILLS/DC/USEPA/US

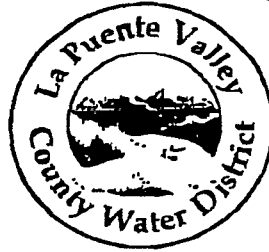
	Assigned	Date Assigned	Code/Status	Date Completed by Assignee	Date Returned to OEX:
Lead	R9	08/06/98	ACTION	-	-

AX Correspondence - Control No: AX-9806218

Francis M. Palacio
President

Robert Fallon
Vice President

Yvonne A. Garcia
Director



Joe V. Alderete
Director

Abel H. Montes
Director

Michael J. Berlien
General Manager

La Puente Valley County Water District

15825 E. Main St. / P.O. Box 3136
La Puente, CA 91744
626/330-2126 - Fax 626/330-2679

July 27, 1998

The Honorable Carol M. Browner
Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
401 M Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator Browner:

On June 13, 1997, the La Puente Valley County Water District was forced to shut down three drinking water wells as a result of the discovery of perchlorate contamination. Additionally, two new chemicals, NDMA and 1,4-dioxane, have been discovered at these wells. The wells were the sole source of supply to the Districts' customers. The District is currently purchasing water, at great expense, from four adjoining water agencies in order to meet system demands. This has resulted in a 60% increase in water rates, and greater increases may become necessary in the future.


The District believes that this contamination creates a substantial economic burden on the customers of the District, many of whom have low incomes and struggle to make ends meet. These contaminants are not the fault of the District or its customers, and are the result of hazardous waste disposal practices of the defense industry. To date no state or federal regulating agencies have provided any financial relief or funding for treatment technologies that can remove these contaminants.


The District requests that the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the guardians of natural resources for the nation, take a responsible and proactive role in providing financial support to those affected by this contamination and promptly pursue legal actions against parties responsible for this contamination.

The District wells are situated near the Baldwin Park Operable Unit Superfund Site in the Main San Gabriel Basin. To date the District has spent over one million dollars of its own money for wellhead treatment to remediate VOC (volatile organic compound) contamination. Unfortunately, these treatment facilities, which have been cleaning up contaminated groundwater for the last seven years lay idle due to the additional contaminants that have recently been found. These facilities, and facilities owned by other nearby water agencies who are experiencing similar problems, had provided a barrier against the further spread of the contamination plume, protecting the drinking water supplies for millions of people.

- provide financial relief to water agencies that incur financial hardship due to perchlorate, NDMA, and 1,4-dioxane contamination;
- furnish funds for drinking water treatment plant construction for the removal of these contaminants from water supplies;
- procure funding to pay for long term O & M costs for these water treatment plants;
- explore litigation against responsible parties to recover costs of contamination cleanup.

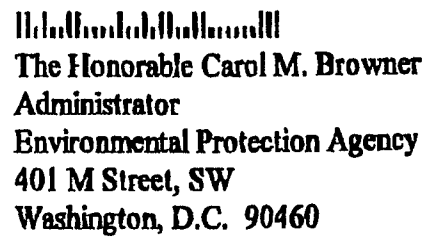
Sincerely,


Robert Fallon
Vice-president


Joe Alderete
Board Member

cc: Barbara Boxer, United States Senate
Diane Feinstein, United States Senate
Esteban Torres, United State Congress
Hilda Solis, California State Senate
Martin Gallegos, California State Assembly

PM
JUN 1998



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